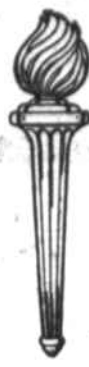




# The Washington Herald

## WEEKLY REVIEW

### A Survey from the Nation's Capital



WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUNE 12, 1921

## WHAT THE WORLD IS DOING

### Counter Revolution in Siberia.

It is difficult to know just what is going on in Siberia beyond the fact that an anti-communist faction has seized control of Vladivostok and that there is renewed activity on the part of anti-bolshevik leaders such as Gen. Semenov, the cossack commander, and Baron Ungern-Sternberg, who has established himself in Mongolia. From Russian sources it is reported that this is the beginning of a new white offensive under the auspices of the Japanese who have announced their intention to evacuate Siberia but will find it impossible to do so as long as there are disturbances in that region. From these same sources it is asserted that plans have been made to transfer Gen. Wrangel and his troops from Constantinople to Vladivostok where they will undertake to accomplish the task in which Admiral Kolchak so signally failed.

In the meantime, the three most important white leaders, Semenov, Ungern-Sternberg and Merkuloff, the successor to Gen. Kappell, are engaged in a maze of plots and counterplots by which each hopes to secure Japanese support and with that his own supremacy.

Gen. Semenov, who was considered the ruler of the Far Eastern republic as long as the Japanese garrison remained in Chita, relinquished his post when they withdrew and has since been living under their protection. Since the recent coup in Vladivostok, Semenov has been attempting to go there, but the forces in control of the city have shown a decided unwillingness to receive him. Baron Ungern-Sternberg has gathered together the polygot army by which he maintains his power in Mongolia and is attacking the forces of the Far Eastern republic.

There is no reason to expect that this white revolt will be any more successful than any previous one. The leaders do not inspire confidence, their motives are not above question and the international issues involved make it appear that the uprising is far from being a spontaneous expression of popular feeling.

### Pueblo Rises From Flood.

WITH the dauntless spirit which built and maintains the west, Pueblo, Colorado's second city, last week started to dig itself free of the muddy pall spread over its lower streets by the raging Arkansas and Fountain rivers.

Traces of the flood, or floods, for there were two distinct inundations, will be long in eradication. At present the citizenry, aided by state and federal agencies, the American Red Cross, the Salvation army and other organizations, is working feverishly to prevent epidemics of disease, in many cases a scourge following floods in which lives have been lost and water supplies put out of commission.

Pueblo, the metropolis of the Arkansas valley, was not the only place to suffer in the twin deluges. All along the fertile bottom lands up and down the great river, the rushing torrents carried death and destruction. Estimates of fatalities even now are inaccurate, some calculations placing the total at less than 100 and others as high as 300, though this is far less than was reckoned at the height of the disaster.

Heavy rains, draining off precipitous slopes, attacked dams above Pueblo with irresistible force, two walls of water descending upon the city. The drowned in many cases forfeited their lives to the belief that the floods would not be as bad as pictured by couriers. Two passenger trains were overturned in the railroad yards at Pueblo and luckless victims were pinned in the debris. The usual scenes of tragedy, wonder and grim humor are not lacking. Families were broken up, children borne away and bread-winners lost in vain attempts to rescue loved ones.

The first flood occurred the night of June 3 and the second three days later. Relief measures, insti-

tuted at once, were most effective. Pueblo was placed under martial law; water was brought in by truck from Colorado Springs, electric service patched as well as might be, the war department was instructed to furnish all possible aid, and the Red Cross and Salvation army functioned in their usual fine manner. Burials of victims are being conducted speedily and quietly, though it will be some time before all bodies are located, if ever.



"AFTER THE PLEBISCITE."

The Pole (to the English and American commercial representatives): "You have come for concessions, gentlemen. Well, it is to me that you must apply; the present occupant is just moving out."

"Mucha" (Warsaw).

The calamity is reckoned as the worst in the United States in point of lives lost since the steamship Eastland turned over at her wharf in the Chicago river in 1915. Property losses range on estimate from \$25,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

### Austrian Cabinet Crisis.

THE effects of the events which have brought about the resignation of the Austrian cabinet of Dr. Mayr concern not only the welfare of Austria but peace of central Europe. The immediate cause of the crisis is the growth of the agitation for union with Germany which, during the last few weeks, has developed rapidly in the Austrian provinces. Some time ago a plebiscite was held in the Tyrol where an overwhelming vote was cast for union. A few weeks later, in spite of protests by France and other states, a vote was taken in Salzburg in which over 95 per cent of the voters registered the desire to unite with Germany. Now the Anschluss movement has gained great headway in the important industrial province of Styria, where it is proposed to hold a plebiscite on July 3. In the meantime, the Austrian government has received warnings not only from France and Italy and the entente nations but from Germany against permitting further plebiscites to be held. The inability of the chancellor, Dr. Mayr, to secure obedience from the provinces has forced him to resign.

The political situation in Austria is complicated by the relations between the capital and the provinces. The latter believe that if they were not forced to support Vienna, they could make some progress in

### Trials of Dr. Wirth.

Although the German chancellor, Dr. Wirth, was able to command a vote of confidence in the reichstag by 213 to 77, his position is by no means as secure as that majority would seem to indicate. In the first place, the majority was made possible only by the benevolent neutrality of the independent socialists and by the refusal of the German people's party to vote on the motion of confidence. Neither of these parties belongs to the coalition which supports the ministry, and if they should decide to join the conservatives and communists who compose the opposition, the Wirth cabinet would fall. Attempts have been made to strengthen the coalition by inducing the German people's party to join it, but they have been unsuccessful, among other reasons because of the opposition within the coalition. The people's party is the party of Stinnes and German big business and as such is regarded with greatest suspicion by the majority socialists, who are chiefly trade unionists and moderately socialistic. On the other hand, the democrats, who are also in the coalition have the same unfriendly feeling for the independent socialists upon whose neutrality the government is forced to rely. It is a case of the two wings of the coalition struggling to swing the government in opposite directions at the same moment. With this very precarious backing, Dr. Wirth is trying to carry out a program of fulfillment which, because of the burdens it will impose, is extremely unpopular.

There are intimations that rather than attempt to continue with a support which may fail him at any moment the chancellor will bring about the dissolution of parliament in the hope that new elections would give him a majority upon which he could depend in carrying out his program for meeting Germany's obligations. This can hardly be accomplished however, except by a shift of the basis of the coalition either to the right or to the left. The direction which the shift might take would depend on whether the elections resulted in strengthening the democrat and the German people's parties of the majority and independent socialists.

economic recovery. They point out that although the allies have promised to help Austria, they have never done so and the time has now come for the provinces to look out for themselves. There is throughout Austria including Vienna an active and aggressive pan-Germanist party which has greater influence than is indicated by its representation in parliament. Through this party and by other means it is said that Hugo Stinnes, the German capitalist who is now a great figure in the Austrian steel and iron industry, is making propaganda for the Anschluss. As this pan-German party is part of the conservative coalition upon which Chancellor Mayr's cabinet depends for support, the government cannot muster a majority on the issue of suppression of the plebiscites. The socialists, which are the largest single party, do not have a majority and refuse to participate in a government with Dr. Mayr's clerical party. In such a situation the possibility of forming a strong government is slight.

Externally the situation is equally bad. The little entente is strongly opposed to the Anschluss movement and any serious move by Austria in that direction would result in invasion. Furthermore, the present crisis may delay indefinitely or permanently remove the possibility of aid to Austria, which is now being organized under the financial commission of the league. The only hope in the present crisis lies in the common sense and patience of the Austrian people. Those virtues have not brought Austria much thus far from the entente but they have saved her during these years of starvation from the disturbances and bloodshed which have occurred in other countries that have suffered less.